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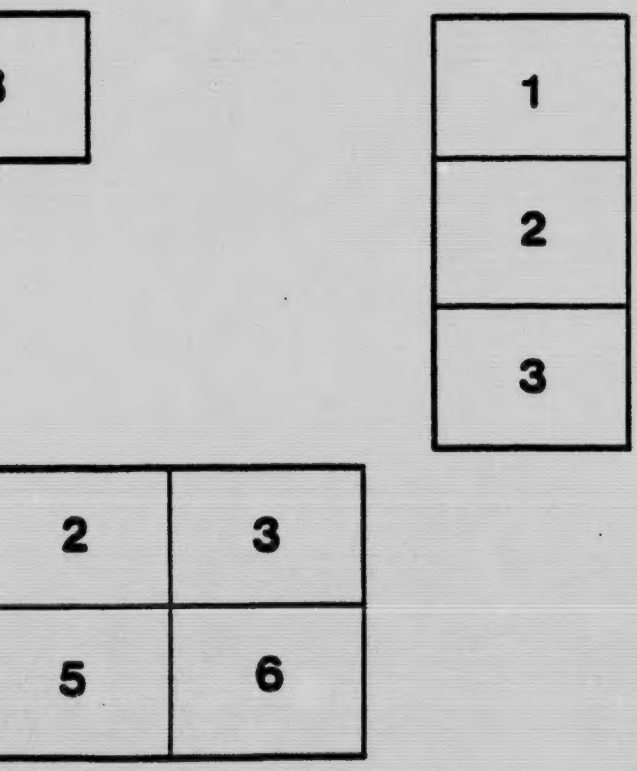

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Model Homes Association

Ottawa

Conditions of Competition for Designs of Small Houses

Model Homes Association

Ottawa

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His Excellency The Right Honourable Earl Grey, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.

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Gerald H. Brown, Assistant Deputy-Minister of Labour.

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T. D. McFarlane, President, Ottawa Builders' Exchange.

Colborne P. Meredith (*Chairman*), Architect, Commissioner, Ottawa Improvement Commission.

E. Norman Smith, President, Ottawa Free Press Limited.

L. Fennings Taylor, Architect.

COMPETITION SUB-COMMITTEE.

Dr. P. H. Bryce

Noulan Cauchon Colborne P. Meredith

L. Fennings Taylor

Competition for Designs of Small Houses

Conditions

The Committee of the Association, in inaugurating this competition, desires to briefly outline the objects and aims of the movement, in order that competitors may better understand the nature of the requirements.

The Model Homes Association, Ottawa, has been formed for the purpose of taking some practical steps towards the improvement, both in economic planning and in external beauty, of the cheaper houses in this city. It is felt that if the movement meets with success it will be rapidly taken up in other cities with good results.

A great many small houses are springing up in and around Ottawa, many being built by working men in their spare time, others by working men on a speculative basis. It is the aim of the Association, by education, and by the scheme of designs, outlined below, to raise these dwellings above the class of shacks, and to demonstrate to their owners that simplicity does not necessarily imply crudeness, that form and line can be successfully obtained in the smallest mass by a proper disposition of material, and that a carefully planned and economical house can be built which is much more suited to their needs than the present series of box-like rooms.

This class of work, owing to lack of means on the part of the builders has heretofore not come under architectural influence.

The Committee, in inviting designs, feels that the public spirit of the profession, draughtsmen and sanitarians throughout Canada should respond, not for the sake of any financial gain to be obtained thereby, but in an honest endeavour to do something for the public benefit.

The architects are asked to submit schemes on a non-competitive basis, while the large number of prizes offered to the draughtsmen and students should offer some inducement to compete, especially as the problem, though fascinating, is not a large one.

When a selection has been made it is the intention of the Committee to supply blue prints of any particular design to the prospective house builder at a nominal sum to cover the cost of reproduction.

The subject is one which should be of universal interest, and it is not the intention of the Committee to restrict the circulation of the designs to Ottawa, as persons resident in other places will be quite at liberty to avail themselves of the scheme. The Model Homes Association is not a philanthropic association, but it aims purely and simply at helping the small home-builder to help himself.

The designs will be adjudicated upon by a sub-committee composed of the following gentlemen:—

COLBORNE P. MEREDITH, Architect.
L. FENNINGS TAYLOR, Architect.
NOULAN CAUCHON, Consulting Engineer.
DR. P. H. BRYCE.

Conditions

CLASSIFICATION OF DESIGNS.

Designs are required for houses suitable for the needs of a workingman's family, at prices as follows:—

1. *Single houses with pitch roof.*

Class	1,	to cost	$1,000.00
"	2,	"	1,200.00
"	3	"	1,400.00
"	4,	"	1,600.00
"	5,	"	1,800.00
"	6	"	2,000.00
"	7,	"	2,500.00

2. *Pair of houses with pitch roof.*

Class	8,	to cost	$1,500.00	the pair.
"	9,	"	2,000.00	"
"	10,	"	2,500.00	"

3. *Single house with flat roof.*

Class	11,	to cost	$1,000.00
"	12,	"	1,200.00
"	13,	"	1,400.00
"	14,	"	1,600.00
"	15,	"	1,800.00

4. *Pairs of houses with flat roof.*

Class	16,	to cost	$1,500.00	the pair.
"	17,	"	2,000.00	
"	18,	"	2,500.00	"

PRIZES.

Prizes will be awarded in each class as follows:—

To design	placed	first.....	$15.00
" "	"	second. .	10.00
" "	"	third ...	5.00

The Committee reserve the right to withold prizes in any class should the entries be deemed of insufficient merit.

Competitors may enter designs in any or all classes, and their designs should be clearly numbered to indicate in which class they are entered.

SIZE OF LOT AND ACCOMMODATION.

The customary sizes of lots in Ottawa are 66 feet frontage by 99 feet deep, and 50 feet frontage by 100 feet deep. The majority of such houses are built on half lots, 33 feet by 99 feet, or 25 feet by 100 feet, the latter being the more common size in the newer sections of the city

The character of the accommodation and the disposal on the lot is left to the discretion of the competitor, as it is hoped that by this competition some original schemes will be evolved for the solution of the problem. All designs, however, should include bath-room and inside w. c., and wherever practicable, an open fire-place.

BASEMENT.

Wherever the design lends itself to such treatment, the competitor should dot on the basement plan the position of piers should the builder wish to proceed without a basement at the outset, with a view to constructing it later. (This is a condition likely to be frequently met with.)

CLEARNESS ESSENTIAL.

It should be clearly understood that elaboration of drawings is not required; competitors should bear in mind the fact that the probable builders will not be well versed in the reading of plans, hence simplicity is essential, especially in regard to figuring.

FLAT-ROOFED HOUSES.

Special attention is directed to the competitions for flat-roofed houses. These are at present the especial abomination in this class of property, but the Association, while not wishing to perpetuate this type among the builders, recognises that the flat roof is the result of economic conditions which have to be met. It is therefore hoped that some satisfactory schemes will be forthcoming to solve this problem.

DRAWINGS.

Drawings required for each house are as follows:—

Floor-plans of each floor.
Four Elevations.
Roof plan.
Outline section.
A small sketch to give the builder a clear idea of the general appearance of the house.

SCALE.

All drawings must be made to a scale of 8 feet to 1 inch. Drawings shall be in ink on tracing linen, 30 inches by 22 inches, if possible.

SPECIFICATIONS.

Competitors are required to submit with their designs brief typewritten specifications of materials and construction.

FIGURING.

Drawings shall be clearly figured.

MATERIALS.

The choice of materials is left to the competitor. This class of building is at present chiefly brick veneered, clapboarded or shingled. A schedule of current prices on building material is appended. Competitors should bear in mind that important economies can be effected by using standard lengths of lumber and stock material.

DELIVERY OF DESIGNS, ETC.

Designs shall not be signed, nor have any mark of identification thereon, but shall be accompanied by a sealed envelope containing the competitors' name and address. On receipt by the Association, the designs and envelopes will be similarly numbered, and the envelope will not be opened until the designs have been adjudicated upon.

This condition does not apply to architects submitting non-competitive designs. All drawings subsequently used will have the designer's name and address printed thereon.

All designs submitted must be received on or before Saturday, May 20th, 1911, addressed to Mr. A. J. Hazelgrove, Honorary Secretary, Model Homes Association, 126 Sparks Street, Ottawa.

Drawings should be rolled, not folded.

SCHEDULES OF RATES FOR MATERIALS.

	per M. B.M.
1″ X culls	$13.00
1″ O culls	15.00
1″ No. 2 Mill culls	17.00
1″ x12 No. 1 Mill culls	19.00
2″ x ¾″ x 12″—16′ Hemlock	18.00
2″ x ¾″ x 12″—16′Spruce	19.00
2″ x 6″ and 8″ Hemlock	18.00
2″ x 6″ and 8″ Spruce	19.00
2″ x 10″ Hemlock	19.00
2″ x 10″ Spruce	22.00
Over 16′ lengths special price.	
1″ Spruce Flooring and Clapboards	24.00
1″ Pine Flooring and Clapboards	26.00
1″ Spruce V-joint and Beaded	25.00
Shingles laid, including paper, per square	5.50
Stock Door, 2′ 6″ x 6′ 6″, each	2.25
Stock D.H. Window, complete, each	4.00
Patent Roofing, per square	2.25
1″ No. 3 T. and G. Spruce	19.00
1″ x 6″ or 1″ x 12″ T. and G. Pine, M.C.	20.00
½″ x 12″ Rough	12.00
1″ x 2″ Furring per length	.04
8″ x 8″ Pine, Dressed	40.00
8″ x 8″ Hemlock, Dressed	25.00

Ordinary earth excavation, 50c. per cubic yard.

Brickwork @ $18.00 per thousand.

Concrete @ 7.00 " cubic yard.

Masonry @ 10.00 " toise of 72 cubic ft.

	Per Square Yard.
Plastering on lath	$ .32
" brick	.20
Cement Plastering on brick	.40
" " wire lath	.75

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